



[12093/928]

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
ART UNIT 3663**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : George S. PABIS et. al.
Serial No. : 10/714,756
Filed : November 17, 2003
For : **FUEL ASSEMBLY NOZZLELESS HANDLING
TOOL AND METHOD**
Art Unit : 3663
Examiner : Ricardo J. Palabrica
Confirmation No. :

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

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Signature:

12/07/06
John M. Vereb
John M. Vereb Reg. No. 48,912

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

SIR:

In response to a September 18, 2006 Final Office Action in the above-identified application, please amend, without prejudice, the above-captioned application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the **Listing of Claims**, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.